





City Plan Commission  
Jorge O. Elorza, Mayor

May 20, 2020

Councilwoman Jo-ann Ryan  
Chair, Committee on Ordinances  
Providence City Hall  
25 Dorrance Street  
Providence, RI 02903

Attn: Shawn Selleck, City Clerk

**Re: Referral 3471 – Amendment of ordinance pertaining to Compassion/Cultivation Center**  
**Sponsors: City Councilmen Nicholas J. Narducci and John J. Iglizzi**

Dear Chairwoman Ryan,

The City Plan Commission (CPC) reviewed the above referenced ordinance change at a regular virtual meeting on May 19, 2020 and voted to recommend that the City Council further study the amendment in order to provide more information on the location of the subject use.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

The sponsors are proposing to amend Section 1202.EE of the ordinance pertaining to Compassion/Cultivation Centers. The amendment adds language pertaining to the location of Compassion/Cultivation Centers, and their measurement relative to other structures. Per the amendment, a Compassion/Cultivation Center shall be separated at least 3/4 of a mile from another Compassion/Cultivation Center, and may not be located within 1,000 feet from the property line of a school.

Based on their discussion at the meeting, the CPC found that more information was required in order to clarify the scope of the amendment. The CPC recommended that the City be mapped with 1,000 foot buffer zones around schools to determine potential locations for the subject use. The CPC also recommended that the amendment be clarified to indicate if it applied to daycare facilities or preschools as that could also affect where the subject uses could be located.

Based on the foregoing discussion, the CPC recommends that the amendment be further studied.

Sincerely,

Administrative Officer  
Choyon Manjrekar

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
444 Westminster Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903  
401 680 8400 ph | 401 680 8492 fax  
[www.providenceri.com](http://www.providenceri.com)





City Plan Commission  
Jorge O. Elorza, Mayor

July 27, 2020

Councilwoman Jo-ann Ryan  
Chair, Committee on Ordinances  
Providence City Hall  
25 Dorrance Street  
Providence, RI 02903

Attn: Shawn Selleck, City Clerk

**Re: Referral 3471 – Amendment of ordinance pertaining to Compassion/Cultivation Center**  
**Sponsors: City Councilmen Nicholas J. Narducci and John J. Iglizzi**

Dear Chairwoman Ryan,  
The City Plan Commission (CPC) reviewed the above referenced ordinance change at a regular virtual meeting on July 21, 2020 and voted to recommend that the City Council .

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

The sponsors are proposing to amend Section 1202.EE of the ordinance pertaining to Compassion/Cultivation Centers. The proposed change was initially heard at the CPCs' May 2020 regular meeting. The amendment adds language pertaining to the location of Compassion/Cultivation Centers, and their measurement relative to other structures. Per the amendment, a Compassion/Cultivation Center shall be separated at least 3/4 of a mile from another Compassion/Cultivation Center, and may not be located within 1,000 feet from the property line of a school. The CPC recommended that the change be further studied. The CPC requested that the City be mapped with 1,000 foot buffer zones around schools to determine potential locations for the subject use. The CPC also recommended that the amendment be clarified to indicate if it applied to daycare facilities or preschools as that could also affect where the subject uses could be located.

The change was again discussed at the CPC's July 2020 regular meeting where the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) presented a map of the City which included buffer zones between schools and other compassion centers. Mr. Robert Azar said that there are currently 753 parcels and approximately 781 acres available for compassion centers in the C-3 and M-1 zones. With the passage of the ordinance, that amount would be reduced to 132 parcels and 138 acres.

A discussion on the ordinance ensued with the CPC taking comment from the proponents and other Commission members. The CPC heard from Councilman Narducci and Mr. Sean Bouchard, Director of Policy and Research who said that the ordinance would stem the proliferation of the use within certain neighborhoods.

**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**  
444 Westminster Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903  
401 680 8400 ph | 401 680 8492 fax  
[www.providenceri.com](http://www.providenceri.com)

**ACTION**

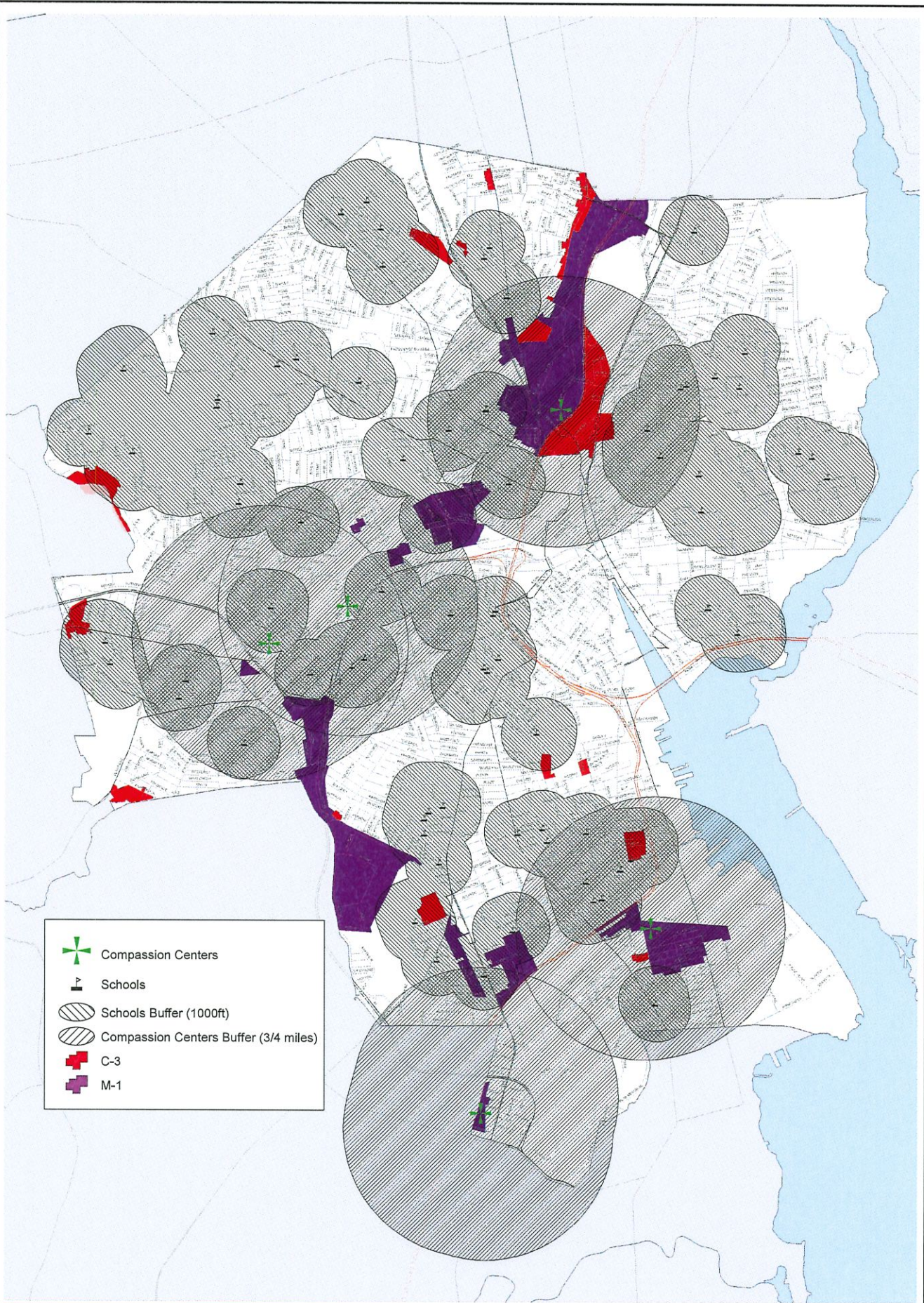
Upon a motion by Commissioner Quezada seconded by Commissioner Bilodeau, the CPC voted to make a positive recommendation to the City Council to approve the amendment as proposed, finding it to be in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan and purposes of zoning. The CPC voted as follows:

AYE: M. Quezada, H. Bilodeau, C. West, N. Verdi, L. Torrado, C. Potter  
Abstain: M. Gazdacko

Sincerely,

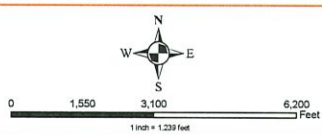
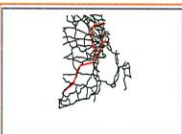
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrative Officer  
Choyon Manjrekar





- Compassion Centers
- Schools
- Schools Buffer (1000ft)
- Compassion Centers Buffer (3/4 miles)
- C-3
- M-1

The information depicted on this map is for planning purposes only.  
It is not adequate for legal boundary definition, regulatory  
interpretation, or parcel-level analysis.  
Produced by the Providence Planning and Development GIS Lab,  
444 Westminster Street, Providence, R.I. 02903  
Data Source:  
Providence Geographic Information System  
Date: 6/24/2020  
Path: H:\Desktop\Compassion\_CultivationCenter\_ARCH\_D\FormatLine.sh



**P** PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND  
**PROVIDENCE** THE CREATIVE CAPITAL  
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
JUANES D. SUAREZ, MAYOR | BOBINE HODGSON, AICP, DIRECTOR